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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/808,358	03/25/2004	Jeff A. Lambert	200312909-1	4732

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HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY
P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

PAPE, ZACHARY

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/808,358	Applicant(s) LAMBERT ET AL.	
	Examiner Zachary M. Pape	Art Unit 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 16-25 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. <u>02082005</u> . |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>03/25/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-15, drawn to Figs 1-3, classified in class 361, subclass 683.
 - II. Claim 16-24, drawn to Figs 1-3, classified in class 29, subclass 832.
 - III. Claim 25, drawn to Figs 1-3, classified in class 29, subclass 739.
2. Inventions II and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the method does not require external walls of apparatus.
3. Inventions III and I are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the method not required to manufacture article since method can be performed by hand.
4. During a telephone conversation with Michael Verga on 2/8/2005 a provisional election was made with traverse to prosecute the invention of group I, claims 1-15. Affirmation of this election must be made by applicant in replying to this Office action.

Claims 16-25 withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner, 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

5. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-7, 9-11, 13-15 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yu (Patent # 5,564,930). With respect to claim 1, Yu teaches a chassis (12) for an electronic device (10), comprising: a plurality of exterior walls (as shown in Fig 1) joined to each other to form a partially-assembled chassis, wherein at least a portion of one exterior wall is vacated (Fig 3, hole between screws 72 on rear wall 22), and a plurality of interchangeable access panels (Fig 2 element 50, Fig 5 element 90) each adapted to

be removably attached to the partially-assembled chassis so as to occupy at least a portion of the exterior wall vacancy (Column 3, Lines 49-52; Column 4 Lines 61-65), wherein each such access panel has a unique configuration of one or more apertures each providing operational access to components housed in the chassis, whereby a completely-assembled chassis is attained by removably attaching any of the plurality of interchangeable access panels to the partially-assembled chassis. (Placing either panel 50 or 90 in the partially vacated exterior wall will result in a completely assembled chassis as illustrated in Fig 1)

9. With respect to claim 2, Yu further teaches an interlocking system comprising at least one interlocking mechanism (68, 72) operably positioned at one or more locations in one or more of the partially-assembled chassis and each of the plurality of interchangeable access panels (tabs 58, 60, 62, 64, 66), wherein each interlocking mechanism is adapted to detachably secure at least a portion of a selected interchangeable access panel to the partially-assembled chassis. (Column 3, Lines 49-52)

10. With respect to claim 3, Yu further teaches that the configurations of one or more operational access apertures comprises one or more of the group comprising: at least one port aperture (98, 100); at least one expansion slot aperture (106); at least one power supply aperture; and at least one ventilation apertures.

11. With respect to claim 4, the teachings of the computer of Yu being a server is implicit in that the definition of a server (a computer in a network that is used to provide services (i.e. as access to files or shared peripherals or the routing of e-mail) to other

computers in the network) allows the computer of Yu to act as a server if desired by the user.

12. With respect to claim 5, Yu further teaches that the electronic device is a personal computer (Column 3, Lines 8-10).

13. With respect to claim 6, Yu further teaches a plurality of access panels (50, 90) each access panel is adapted to be removably attached (via tabs 58, 60, 62, 64) to a partially-assembled chassis (As illustrated in Fig 7) to occupy at least a portion of a vacant portion (Fig 3, area between apertures 72) of an exterior wall, and wherein each access panel (50, 90) comprises a configuration of at least one aperture (i.e. Fig 5, 98, 100, 106, etc) each constructed and arranged to provide operational access to components mounted in the chassis. (i.e. Fig 3 accessory card 17).

14. With respect to claim 7, Yu further teaches an interlocking system comprising at least one interlocking mechanism (68, 72) operably positioned at one or more locations in either or both the partially-assembled chassis and each of the plurality of interchangeable access panels (tabs 58, 60, 62, 64, 66), wherein each interlocking mechanism is adapted to detachably secure at least a portion of a selected interchangeable access panel to the partially-assembled chassis. (Column 3, Lines 49-52)

15. With respect to claim 9, Yu further teaches that each configuration of at least one operational access aperture comprises a combination of one or more characteristics of aperture size, dimensions, quantity, orientation, relative position, location, and type of supported operational access. (As illustrated in Fig 5, i.e. 94 is capable of connecting a

keyboard, and 102 a parallel cable, and the location of 94 differs from the location of 106)

16. With respect to claim 10, Yu further teaches that the configuration of one or more operational access apertures (50, 90) of at least one of the interchangeable each access panels comprises: at least one port aperture. (Fig 5, 98, 100, etc)

17. With respect to claim 11, Yu further teaches that the configuration of one or more operational access apertures (50, 90) of at least one of the interchangeable each access panels comprises: at least one expansion slot aperture. (Fig 5, 106)

18. With respect to claim 13, Yu fails to specifically teach the use of one ventilation aperture. However inherently any of the unused apertures (i.e. 106) can act as a means to ventilate the internal components of the chassis with ambient air.

19. With respect to claim 14, Yu fails to specifically teach that the electronic device is a server, however the mere definition of a server (a computer in a network that is used to provide services (as access to files or shared peripherals or the routing of e-mail) to other computers in the network) allows the computer of Yu to act as a server if desired by the user.

20. With respect to claim 15, Yu further teaches that the electronic device is a personal computer (Column 3, Lines 8-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

21. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2835

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

22. Claims 8 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yu. With respect to claim 8, Yu teaches the use of interchangeable access panels as described in claim 6 above, but fails to teach that the vacant portion (area between apertures 72) comprises an entire exterior wall. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to extend the vacant space of Yu to comprise the entire back wall of the chassis, and to further extend the interchangeable access panels (50, 90) to fill the larger vacated space to accommodate more ports and expansion slots.

23. With respect to claim 12, while Yu does not specifically teach that the power supply aperture (Fig 1, 20) be on an interchangeable panel, Yu clearly teaches providing other apertures be on interchangeable panels (50,90). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow for the power supply to be interchangeable in addition to the other apertures to increase the versatility of the device. Additionally interchangeability of components would allow for quick and easy replacement of worn or damaged parts.

Conclusion

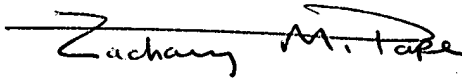
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-

Art Unit: 2835

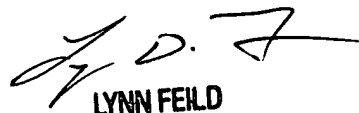
2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Thur. & every other Fri.
(8:00am - 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached at 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



ZMP



LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800